

## Minutes of October 12<sup>th</sup> EAC Meeting

The Allentown EAC met on October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 starting at 5:15 p.m. in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room of Allentown City Hall.

EAC members present: Scott Burnet, Randy Fey, Allan Messinger and Tinku Khanwalkar

- The minutes of the August meeting were duly approved.
- There was a discussion of the energy benchmarking study done by Kylie Boskie. The question is whether the EAC should press for a City ordinance requiring the energy usage of each City-owned building to be benchmarked and made public. Randy Fey agreed to first discuss with Craig Messinger to see what the City has done and what else it is capable of doing.
- Scott Burnet reported that the no-mow petition by Lehigh Valley Audubon has been put on hold pending further discussions with Lindsay Taylor. He agreed to ask Lindsay for the City's stream buffer management plan for the EAC to review. Randy will also talk to Rick Holtzman about stream buffer management.
- Scott also reported that Friends of the Allentown Parks has become very discouraged with the mowing down of the native plants at Cedar Beach Park and Sparkle Island that had been planted with volunteer support and thousands of dollars of grant money. Randy will talk to Karen El Chaar to see how the EAC can help to turn this around.
- Tinku reported on her update to City Council regarding the EAC's activities. The update was well-received and Tinku informed City Council that at future City Council meetings the EAC members will be giving presentations on matters they have researched.
- Randy Fey reported that his paper on stormwater management will be ready for submission to the City in mid-January. Tinku will work with Mike Hanlon for a January date for Randy's presentation to City Council.
- Randy Fey observed that six development plans have been approved by the Planning Commission despite inclusion of invasive plants in the plans. The EAC concluded that Rich Niesenbaum, as the EAC representative on the Planning Commission, will need to focus on this and report back to the EAC. If EAC input is not being taken, then the EAC may need to press for an ordinance requiring EAC review of plans. Scott moved that the EAC should develop a list of invasive plants that should not be included in any City-approved development plan. Randy

seconded the motion and it was **APPROVED**. The task has preliminarily been assigned to Rich Niesenbaum.

The meeting was duly adjourned at 7:00 p.m.